

Message Text

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 02369

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, FR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON JEAN-PIERRE

CABOUAT, NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA

1. JEAN-PIERRE CABOUAT, WHO HOLDS THE RANK OF MINISTER-
PLENIPOTENTIARY IN THE FRENCH FOREIGN SERVICE HAS RE-
CENTLY BEEN NAMED FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA. PUBLISH-
ED SOURCES NOTE THAT HE WAS BORN IN PARIS IN 1921 AND
TOOK MASTER'S DEGREES IN LITERATURE AND LAW. HE PARTI-
CIPATED ACTIVELY IN THE RESISTANCE BEFORE JOINING THE
QUAI. HE BELONGED TO THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN NIMES
AND EVENTUALLY JOINED THE FREE FRENCH FORCES. HE ENTER-
ED THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1946 AND HELD THE FOLLOWING
POSTS: VICE CONSUL IN GENOA (1946-1948),
VICE-CONSUL AND THEN SECOND SECRETARY IN PRAGUE
(1949-1952). HE RETURNED THEN TO THE QUAI WHERE HE
WAS ASSIGNED SUCCESSIVELY TO THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARIAT FOR CONFERENCES (1952-1953), CULTURAL
RELATIONS (1954-1958) AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (1958).
HE BECAME FIRST SECRETARY AND THEN SECOND COUNSELOR
AT THE EEC IN BRUSSELS (1962-1963), DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR AFRICAN AND MALAGASY AFFAIRS AT THE QUAI (1964-1966)
FIRST COUNSELOR IN WASHINGTON (1966-1970), AND CHEF
DE SERVICE IN THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS AT THE QUAI (SINCE 1970).

2. CABOUAT IS AN ABLE AND INTELLIGENT OFFICIAL WHOSE
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ROLE IS LESS THAT OF A FORMULATOR THAN OF AN

EXECUTOR OF POLICY. HE HEWS CLOSELY TO THE OFFICIAL LINE BUT IS MODERATE AND UNDOGMATIC IN HIS DEFENSE OF IT. HE HAS HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS WHO HAVE DEALT WITH HIM AND MAINTAINS A FRIENDLY AND COURTEOUS MANNER EVEN WHEN DISCUSSING THE MOST CONTENTIOUS ISSUES. HIS ENGLISH IS SOMEWHAT HALTING.

3. CABOUAT HAS BEEN MARRIED TWICE, WITH FOUR CHILDREN FROM HIS FIRST MARRIAGE AND TWO FROM HIS PRESENT MARRIAGE.

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